

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

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NEWS RELEASE

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KENTUCKY STATE NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION HOSTS HIKE THROUGH FRANKLIN COUNTY PRESERVE

Comes at height of wildflower season

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 30, 2007) – The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC) will host an easy level spring hike through River Cliffs State Nature Preserve in Franklin County on Sunday, May 6, during the height of wildflower season.

The commission's lead botanist, Deborah White, will begin the hike at 1 p.m. EDT. Registration is required and can be made by email – <u>Deborah.White@ky.gov</u> – or by calling the commission. Participants are urged to wear comfortable shoes and bring water in light containers. Though the hike is considered easy, it should be noted that some portions are uphill.

River Cliffs, a state nature preserve since 2002, covers 112 acres along the Kentucky River palisades northwest of Frankfort. It harbors a growth of Braun's rockcress, a plant on the federal government's list of endangered species.

Information about the commission and its mission to protect Kentucky's natural heritage can be obtained by mail (KSNPC, 801 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601-1403), by telephone (502-573-2886 or toll free 877-214-6173) or on the Internet (<u>www.naturepreserves.ky.gov</u>).

